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Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~evaluating the ability of determining whether~~ an agent ~~to inhibit~~ inhibits binding of human ERAB polypeptide (SEQ. ID. NO: 2), or a fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ thereof, to amyloid-beta peptide which comprises:

- (a) incubating human ERAB polypeptide (SEQ. ID. NO: 2), or a fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ thereof, the agent and amyloid-beta peptide under suitable binding conditions;
- (b) determining the amount of amyloid-beta peptide bound to the polypeptide, or fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ from the incubate of (a); and
- (c) comparing the amount of bound amyloid-beta peptide determined in step (b) to an amount of amyloid-beta peptide bound to the polypeptide, or fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ determined in the absence of the agent, wherein when the amount of amyloid-beta polypeptide bound to the polypeptide, or fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ thereof is decreased in the presence of said agent, the ~~ability of the agent to inhibit~~ inhibits binding of human ERAB polypeptide (SEQ. ID. NO: 2), or the

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fragment ~~or polymorphism~~ thereof, ~~to amyloid beta is~~
determined.

21-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the agent is a peptide.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the agent is a peptidomimetic compound.
29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the agent is a nucleic acid.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the agent is a small molecule.